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A. W. S.

Express Mail No.: EL 500 576 499 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Danielson et al.

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 2002  
Technology Center 2600

Application No.: 10/009,553

Group Art Unit: 2661

Filed: March 21, 2002

Examiner: TBA

For: SWITCH APPARATUS

Attorney Docket No.: 10806-013

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Amendment

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

A marked up version of the claims (with deleted matter indicated by brackets, and added matter indicated by underlining) showing the amendments is attached hereto as Exhibit

A. A copy of the claims that will be pending upon entry of the preliminary amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Please amend claims 3-7 as follows:

3. (Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein each one of said elements is arranged to receive data in essentially equally sized frames via at least one of the input ports of the respective element and to output data in essentially equally sized frames at the output port of the respective element.